



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVAL INTELLIGENCE COMMAND
2461 EISENHOWER AVENUE
ALEXANDRIA, VA. 22314

SECRET

IN REPLY REFER TO

S16/NIC-00XC

17 JAN 1973

DDI/IRS 53/1386

SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF RECONNAISSANCE GROUP INFORMATION
REQUIREMENTS STAFF, OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR
INTELLIGENCE, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1 Subj: U-2 Support for Weather Modification Experiments;
request for ☐

25X1 Encl: (1) OP-986 Memorandum Ser 007P986 of 5 Jan 1973

25X1 1. ☐ The enclosed Memorandum from RADM MOFFIT contains a
request for very high altitude imagery in support of a
series of weather modification experiments which are to be
conducted in the vicinity of Santa Barbara, California.

25X1 2. ☐ The purpose of the experiments is to develop
effective cloud dispersal techniques which, if successful,
could have operational application.

25X1 3. ☐ Since the operational capabilities and sensor
systems of the U-2 aircraft suggest its suitability for
obtaining the desired imagery, your assistance in providing
U-2 support to this project is requested.

25X1 4. ☐ If your response to this request is favorable, it
is suggested that direct liaison be established between the
appropriate CIA officials and the Navy point of contact for
the project, CDR D. N. BROWN, OX 7-1444.

C. D. Everhart
C. D. EVERHART
Deputy

NAVY review(s) completed.

CLASSIFIED BY: NAVINTCOM-00X
EXEMPT FROM GDS OF EO 11652
EXEMPTION CATEGORY 5B(3)
DECLASSIFIED ON: IMPOSSIBLE
TO DETERMINE

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350

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IN REPLY REFER TO

OP-986B1/mhs

Ser 007P986

5 Jan 73

SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, NAVAL INTELLIGENCE COMMAND

25X1

Subj: Assistance in Conducting Research and Development Project, request for ☐

25X1

1. ☐ During the period January to April 1973, Naval Weapons Center, China Lake will be conducting weather modification experiments over ocean areas in the vicinity of Santa Barbara, California. Timing of specific experiments is contingent upon the existence of satisfactory natural conditions. Last year such conditions existed about 16 times during the four-month period. The existence of satisfactory conditions can usually be predicted 6 hours in advance with about 80% reliability. Tentative decisions to try an experiment are made 48 hours in advance with a Go/No decision 24 hours ahead.

25X1

2. ☐ During this year we hope to conduct between 8 and 12 experiments. It would be of considerable value if very high altitude imagery (visible and/or IR) of portions of the experiment area (200 x 200 n mile) were available at 10-minute intervals for one hour prior to initial seeding and up to three hours following seeding. Informal liaison has indicated that U-2 services might be able to provide some of the desired coverage.

25X1

3. ☐ It is requested that coverage of as many experiments as possible be authorized on a not to interfere basis in support of this weather modification R&D effort. It is recognized that the unavoidable indefinite times the coverage would be desired and the short alert times which are intrinsic to the problem may preclude coverage in many cases. If authorized, it is recommended that direct liaison be established between the R&D project personnel (Dr. Elliott, NWC, X2410) and aircraft activity in order to define details and effect coordination. The point of contact on my staff for this project is CDR D. N. Brown (OX7-1444).

Handwritten signature: D. N. Brown

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EXEMPT FROM G.D.S. OF E.O.

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EXEMPT CATEGORY 5

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